

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PC-10

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/031 R

DRAFTED BY ACTION/GC:PSMAGID:KG:EEC  
APPROVED BY L/T:AWROVINE  
AF/C:RMARCUS  
ACTION/GC:JANDERSON  
ACTION/CDO:PROWE  
ACTION/RD:BGAYMON  
L/T:JABOYD

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R 062043Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GB

SUBJECT: GABON PEACE CORPS AGREEMENT

1. IN RESPONSE TO YATES APRIL 24, 1978 LETTER TO MARCUS  
AF/C, PC/W AND DEPARTMENT HAVE REVIEWED FRENCH TEXT AND  
ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF PRESIDENT BONGO'S RESPONSE TO  
DEC. 5, 1977 NOTE FROM U.S. AMBASSADOR RE PROPOSED PC  
COUNTRY AGREEMENT. CONCUR WITH YOUR POSITION THAT DIS-  
CREPANCIES IN RESPONSE APPEAR DUE SOLELY TO TYPOGRAPHICAL  
ERRORS OR STYLISTIC CHANGES, AND HENCE DO NOT RPT NOT  
EFFECT SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT OF AGREEMENT. SOLE POSSIBLE  
EXCEPTIONS ARE REFERENCES TO BIEN IMMOBILIERS (REAL  
PROPERTY) INSTEAD OF BIEN MOBILIERS (PERSONAL PROPERTY)  
IN PARA. 4 OF PRESIDENT BONGO'S NOTE. WHILE IT IS  
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BELIEVED THAT THESE CHANGES ARE ALSO ERRORS, CLARIFICATION  
SHOULD BE OBTAINED AS A CHANGE IN THESE TERMS CAN EFFECT  
MATERIAL RIGHTS OF PC PERSONNEL AND PERSONNEL OF PRIVATE  
ORGANIZATIONS UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE PC IN GABON.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD POINT OUT ERRORS IN PARA. 4 OF AGREEMENT  
REFERRED TO AND REQUEST THAT GOG CLARIFY INTENTION TO EXEMPT

PERSONAL PROPERTY. THESE CORRECTIONS CAN BE MADE IN INK ON THE ORIGINAL GOG NOTE. SHOULD GOG WISH TO EXEMPT ONLY REAL PROPERTY, PLEASE INFORM PC/STATE SO THAT DECISION ON THIS ISSUE CAN BE MADE.

4. IT APPEARS THAT THE EASIEST WAY TO CORRECT EARLIER FAILURE TO SUBMIT ENGLISH TEXT TO GOG WOULD BE TO NOW SUBMIT A NOTE DATED DECEMBER 16, 1975, CONTAINING THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE ERRORS CORRECTED IN PARA. 4. INFORM GOG THAT USG INTENDS TO PUBLISH ENGLISH VERSION ALONG WITH REPLY IN FRENCH IN U.S. TREATY PUBLICATIONS.

5. PLEASE FORWARD ORIGINAL GOG NOTE AND CERTIFIED COPY OF EMBASSY NOTE TO ASSISTANT LEGAL ADVISER, TREATY AFFAIRS, SO THAT AGREEMENT MAY BE PRINTED AND SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS.

6. THE FOLLOWING IS THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE FRENCH TEXT OF THE US-GABONESE PEACE CORPS AGREEMENT PROVIDED BY LANGUAGE SERVICES IN DEPT OF STATE:

EXCELLENCY:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO RECENT CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND TO PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDINGS WITH RESPECT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE IN THE PEACE CORPS AND WHO, AT THE REQUEST OF YOUR GOVERNMENT, WILL LIVE AND WORK FOR A PERIOD OF TIME IN THE GABONESE REPUBLIC.

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL FURNISH SUCH PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS AS MAY BE REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC AND APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO PERFORM WORK IN GABON AGREED TO BY OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE VOLUNTEERS WILL WORK UNDER THE IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION OF GABONESE GOVERNMENTAL OR PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS DESIGNATED BY OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL PROVIDE TRAINING TO ENABLE THE VOLUNTEERS TO PERFORM THEIR WORK MORE EFFECTIVELY. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL BEAR SUCH SHARE OF THE COSTS OF THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM INCURRED IN GABON AS OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS MAY AGREE SHOULD BE CONTRIBUTED BY IT.

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL ACCORD EQUITABLE TREATMENT TO THE VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR PROPERTY, AND AFFORD THEM FULL AID AND PROTECTION, INCLUDING TREAT-

MENT NO LESS FAVORABLE THAN THAT ACCORDED GENERALLY TO CITIZENS RESIDING IN GABON. FURTHERMORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL FULLY INFORM AND CONSULT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

ON ALL MATTERS CONCERNING VOLUNTEERS AND WILL COOPERATE TO THE FULL EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH THOSE REPRESENTATIVES. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL EXEMPT THE VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL TAXES ON PAYMENTS THEY RECEIVE FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE GABON, FROM ALL CUSTOMS DUTIES AND OTHER CHARGES ON THEIR PERSONAL PROPERTY INTRODUCED INTO GABON FOR THEIR OWN USE AT OR SHORTLY AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL, AND FROM ALL OTHER TAXES, CHARGES, AND FEES (INCLUDING IMMIGRATION FEES), EXCEPT LICENSE FEES AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAXES AND OTHER CHARGES INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND SERVICES.

3. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL PROVIDE THE VOLUNTEERS WITH SUCH LIMITED AMOUNTS OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AS OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS MAY AGREE SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY IT TO ENABLE THE VOLUNTEERS TO PERFORM THEIR TASKS EFFECTIVELY. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL EXEMPT FROM ALL TAXES, CUSTOMS DUTIES, AND OTHER CHARGES ALL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES INTRODUCED INTO OR ACQUIRED IN GABON BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY CONTRACTOR FINANCED BY IT, FOR USE HEREUNDER.

4. TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO DISCHARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL RECEIVE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEACE CORPS AND SUCH STAFF OF THE REPRESENTATIVE AND SUCH PERSONNEL OF UNITED STATES PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS PERFORMING FUNCTIONS HEREUNDER, UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC. THE GABONESE GOVERNMENT WILL EXEMPT SUCH PERSONS FROM ALL TAXES ON INCOME DERIVED FROM THE PEACE CORPS WORK OR SOURCES OUTSIDE GABON, AND FROM ALL OTHER TAXES, CHARGES, AND FEES (INCLUDING IMMIGRATION FEES) EXCEPT LICENSE FEES AND TAXES OR OTHER CHARGES INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND SERVICES. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL ACCORD THE PEACE CORPS REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS STAFF THE SAME TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES AND OTHER CHARGES ON REAL PROPERTY (SIC) INTRODUCED INTO GABON FOR THEIR OWN USE AS IS ACCORDED PERSONNEL OF COMPARABLE RANK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OR GRADE OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL ACCORD  
PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED STATES PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS  
UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

THE SAME TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE PAYMENT OF  
CUSTOMS DUTIES AND OTHER CHARGES ON REAL PROPERTY (SIC)  
INTRODUCED INTO GABON FOR THEIR OWN USE AS IS ACCORDED  
VOLUNTEERS HEREUNDER.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC WILL EXEMPT  
FROM INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS AND CURRENCY  
CONTROLS ALL FUNDS INTRODUCED INTO GABON FOR USE HERE-  
UNDER BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OR CON-  
TRACTORS FINANCED BY IT. SUCH FUNDS SHALL BE CONVERTIBLE  
INTO CURRENCY OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC AT THE HIGHEST  
RATE WHICH IS NOT UNLAWFUL IN GABON.

6. APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS  
MAY MAKE SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS  
VOLUNTEERS AND THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN GABON AS  
APPEAR NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLE-  
MENTING THIS AGREEMENT. THE UNDERTAKINGS OF EACH GOVERN-  
MENT HEREIN ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND  
TO THE APPLICABLE LAWS OF EACH GOVERNMENT.

IF THESE UNDERSTANDINGS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO YOUR GOVERNMENT,  
I HAVE THE HONOR TO PROPOSE THAT THIS LETTER AND YOUR  
GOVERNMENT'S REPLY CONCURRING THEREIN SHALL CONSTITUTE AN  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS WHICH SHALL ENTER  
INTO FORCE ON THE DATE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S REPLY AND  
SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL NINETY DAYS AFTER THE DATE  
OF THE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION FROM EITHER GOVERNMENT TO THE  
OTHER OF INTENTION TO TERMINATE IT.

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ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCE OF MY VERY HIGH  
CONSIDERATION.

JOHN A. MCKESSON  
AMBASSADOR

VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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